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which provides information relating to environmental conditions in the immediate locality of the portable communications device.

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10. (Amended) A method according to Claim 8, wherein the derived speed and direction data is used to control traffic in the respective location.

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11. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein an external data source wirelessly transmits data to the portable communications device.

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14. (Amended) A method according to Claim 11, in which the transmitted data incorporates an identifier identifying the transmitter, which is used as the location identifier.

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15. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, in which the portable communications device is a mobile telephone.

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16. (Amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein the location aware component is a GPS receiver built in to the portable communications device.

17. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the data is communicated to the data collection point over a telephone network.

19. (Amended) A portable communications device for use in a method according to claim 5, comprising:

a power source;

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an environmental sensor for detecting environmental conditions in the locality of the device, and for providing corresponding data to communications circuitry; and

communications circuitry for transmitting the data to a base station.

21. (Amended) A portable communications device for use in a method according to claim 11, comprising:

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a power source;

a receiver for receiving data from an external data source, and for providing corresponding data to communications circuitry; and

communications circuitry for transmitting the data to a base station.